process. New high yielding varieties are released every year, and during 1999-2000, nine such varieties were released.

Funds for Agriculture/Horticulture Development

1251. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have provided amounts to State Governments for the development of their agriculture/horticulture research institutions;

(b) if so, the names of States which have received amounts during the last three years, with year-wise amounts provided to them; and

(c) the achievements of such institutions during this period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) The Department of Agricultural Research and Education does not provide any amount directly to State Governments for the development of their agricultural/horticultural research institutions.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Damage due to Rain and Floods

1252. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the extent of damage sustained by different States due to torrential rain and heavy floods during die current years;

(b) whether me Central assistance have been granted to those States; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) The State Governments of Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Bihar, Kerala and Punjab have reported damage due to heavy rains/floods in varying degrees.

(b) and (c) As per the interim recommendations of the Eleventh Finance Commission, instalments of Central share of Calamiuty Relief Fund for the year 2000-01 have already been released by the Ministry of Finance to die States as follow:

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(Rs. in crore)

State	Amount released
Assam	15.66
Arunachal Pradesh	4.40
Bihar	—
Kerala	17.34
Punjab	16,95

Target for Oilseed Production

1253. SHRIMATI KUMKUM RAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the target fixed for oilseeds production during the year 1997-98,1998-99 and 1999-2000;

(b) whether the target was achieved; *and*

(c) what steps are being taken by Government to promote oilseed production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) and (b)The production target of Oilseeds as well as the achievement made during the year 1997-98, 1998-1999 and 1999-2000 is as under:

(in million tonnes)

Year	Target	Achievement
1997-1998	25.50	21.32
1998-1999	27.00	25.21
1999-2000	27.00	21.14

(c) In order to increase the production *of* oilseeds *in* the country, a Centrally sponsored Oilseeds Production Programme (OPP) is in implementation in 25 States covering 397 selected districts. Under the Programme financial assistance *is* being provided for the critical inputs like production and distribution of seeds, distribution of seed minikits, sprinkler sets, improved farm implements, gypsum/pyrites, micro-nutrients, rhizobium culture etc. to the farmers Through State Govts. In addition to this, frontline

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.